



The California Science Center is pleased to provide special insights to our Members! Here's what's in this issue of *The Nucleus*:

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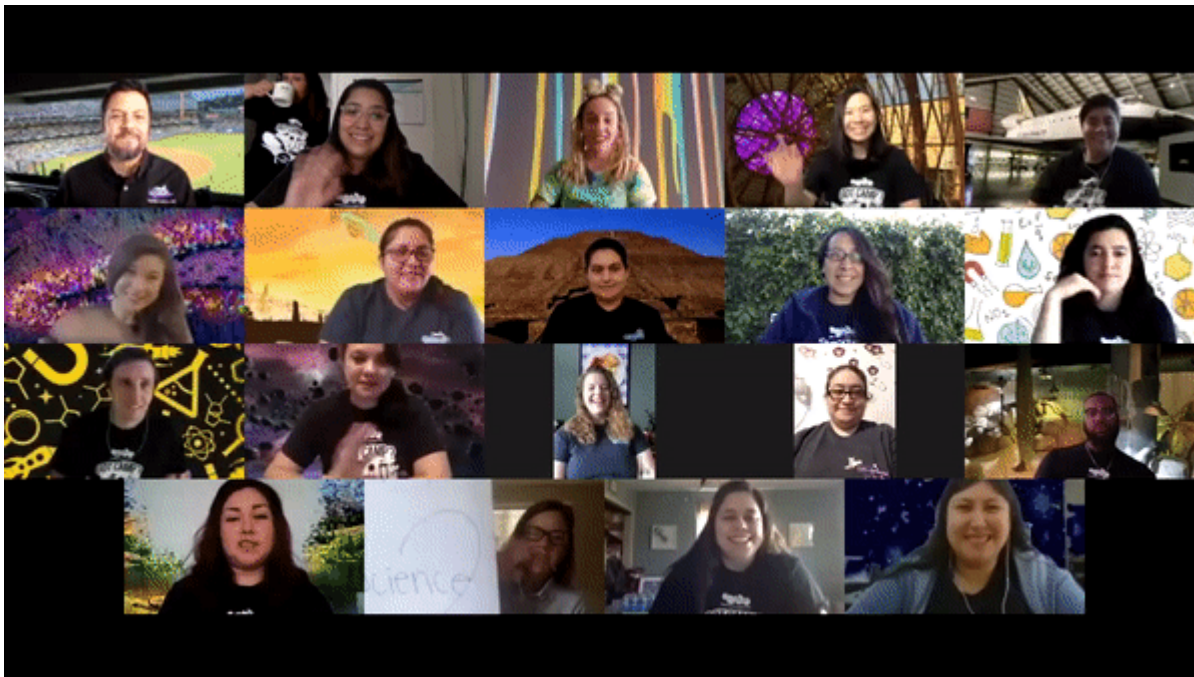
[NEW! Virtual Backgrounds](#)

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**Members, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe, healthy and continuing to learn. During these challenging times, your vital support enables the California Science Center to continue inspiring science learning in everyone as a trusted educational resource – THANK YOU!**

**MEET THE STUCK AT HOME SCIENCE TEAM!**



When we reflect on this year, it is likely that we will all remember the day our schools and businesses shut down and we turned to our families to be safer at home. For the California Science Center, that day was Monday, March 16. This is also the day we introduced [Stuck at Home Science](#), which was initially comprised of downloadable activity guides released online every weekday free of charge. Our Education team quickly resolved to find new ways to fulfill our mission to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable experiences – even when kids are stuck at home.

By the end of that same week, the program evolved to include videos and the first, making a dramatic entrance, is fittingly called [The Big Boom!](#) in which Monica Barajas engages families in mixing baking soda and vinegar to make carbon dioxide and, a home-sized little boom. You may remember Monica from the first of our weekly Nucleus features, Meet Monica! One week after the California Science Center temporarily closed its doors to the public, Stuck at Home Science officially launched with a rocketry theme, 3, 2, 1 Blast Off!. Stuck at Home Science was created so the California Science Center could continue to provide science education opportunities for children, families and educators. The core values of accessibility and inclusiveness that underpin our mission of science learning for everyone clearly guide our program development, with multiple access points such as videos and printable activities, and all the resources made available in English and Spanish.

**"Stuck at Home Science allowed us to continue our mission of inspiring science learning in everyone using a new platform. We were able to reach children, teachers and parents through engaging science activities and videos released each day."** — Gretchen Bazela, Deputy Director for Education

Stuck at Home Science is only possible through the innovative and talented work of the Education Department working in subgroups comprised of the activity writing, translation and two videography teams who work collaboratively with Exhibit Development and Living Collections staff at the California Science Center. At the early part of any week, the teams are well into the production for all the online activity posts for the current week and into the next. Through their

vision, hard work and varied expertise we are able to bring fun, engaging activities and content to our communities.

**“Many people worked outside of their comfort zones, but through it all, we were able to spotlight the unique expertise and resources of the California Science Center on camera, social media and in our activity sheets.”** — Nor Oropez, Director of Community and Exhibit Programs

The second week was designed to help families become comfortable with doing science together and literally brought science into homes and kitchens with All Cooked Up! programming that explored [Ice Cream Science](#), made salad dressing in [Emulsions](#), introduced families doing science together to make pickles in [Fermentation](#) and closed the week with a delicious breakfast treat familiar to all in [Pancake Lab](#).

Staff who normally deliver professional development training to teachers played a critical role in Stuck at Home Science. This team is composed of educators who have expertise in the formal school environment as well as informal education institutions, such as the Science Center, who worked together to create the videos and accompanying downloadable activity guides.

**“The process has been like riding a roller coaster (ups, downs and fast), but as a former educator and as a parent of two young children, I was happy to call upon my experience and insights as we worked through uncertainties.”** — Elena Lopez, Professional Learning Manager

If you’ve seen [Sticky Snot](#), you have experienced the outcome of these insights. The video includes Elena’s daughters who make slime in a fast-action scene. Then, they use sticky slime as mucus to pick up spices, something we already have at home and that represent the pathogens we inhale through our nose. This fun and innovative video includes Reggie Williams - whom you may remember from Meet Reggie! – acting as a booger.

**“In this COVID-19 environment where we are all adhering to physical distancing recommendations, we wanted to focus on videography that would engage the audience through fun conversations about science and our experiences with science, much like you would experience in the Science Center itself.”** — He Sung Im, Community Programs Coordinator

“Science doesn’t happen in black and white” is something you’ll hear Mariela Cerna-Lopez say in a regular Friday feature since mid-April in which she demonstrates how notebooks provide children with a place to write regularly about science and gives them a place to keep track of questions they may have and to document new learnings. Features include [Coaster Contest](#), [Big Lab Playground](#), [Baby Chameleon’s Day Out](#), [Three States of Matter](#) and [Lift Off!](#).

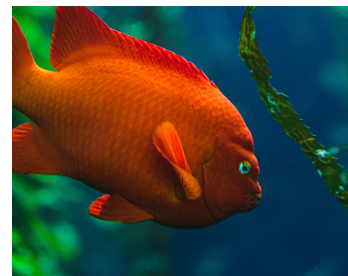
**“Many times people’s view of science are very black and white, very fact based. With these videos we wanted to show that there is so much more to science than isolated facts. The drawing videos connect to the learning themes of the week and give children and families at home an opportunity to experience science in a different and engaging way.”** — Mariela Cerna-Lopez, Teacher Specialist

In mid-May, we entered a second phase of Stuck at Home Science in which curators start each week by engaging viewers in exhibit gallery themes for four weeks. We are learning together at home and gaining awareness of the educational resources available at the Science Center to extend your learning on your next visit. Last week our Curator of Life Sciences Dr. Liz Roth-Johnson delivered a [Bio Chat](#) that introduced us to the [World of Life](#) exhibit themes to help discover connections between all life forms. We began this week [Pushing Against Gravity](#) with our Curator of Aerospace Science Dr. Ken Phillips who demonstrated potential and kinetic energy using blocks; gravity by throwing a ball in the air; and an orbit by swinging a ball on a string, illuminating how spacecraft from our [Air and Space](#) collection had to build the speed to escape the force of Earth's gravity and travel into space. Next week we will visit [Creative World](#) and examine human invention. And finally, we will tour [Ecosystems](#) to learn more about how everything is connected – plants, animals, people, weather, water, soil are all part of a delicate balance.

The Stuck at Home Science online series has been extremely successful with more views from the website and social media engagements than any educational program of the California Science Center. As well, Stuck at Home Science has received nationwide media attention. You can find a round-up of news stories in the full issue of *The Nucleus*. The Education team looks forward to continuing to adapt our programming to ensure accessibility and inspire science learning.

[Read Full Story](#)

In the next issue of *The Nucleus* we will provide you with insights into a science-filled Santa Catalina Island experience – a culminating tradition for the Science Center School's 5th grade class that would have been canceled as schools are closed and field trips prohibited. Instead, through the creativity and collaboration of the faculty, Living Collections and Education staff led by Curator of Life Sciences Dr. Chuck Kopczak, this field trip became a memorable 3-day experience that occurred online as Virtual Catalina.



**CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER IN THE NEWS**





Stuck at Home Science continues to make the news. [KTLA's Gayle Anderson is regularly covering Stuck at Home Science](#). Other coverage by media outlet includes [CBS Los Angeles – California Science Center's 'Stuck at Home Science' Video Series Offers Hands-On Projects](#); [PBS SoCal – Three Pickling Recipes from Around the World to Make with Your Kids](#); and [NBC4's digital reporter has posted Stuck at Home Science with other online learning resources for kids](#). And, Stuck at Home Science has even picked up momentum on the East Coast. Here is a [CBS News New York post](#).

## SCIENCE BEYOND THE CENTER



Missing your visits to the California Science Center? [Science Beyond the Center](#), a new online portal on our website, will give you special behind-the-scenes access to Science Center exhibits in ways you've never seen before.

This week to complement NASA and SpaceX's historic launch of two astronauts to the International Space Station, planned for Saturday, May 30, 2020, we released the video [Launch](#) so you can find out what it feels like to liftoff into space from astronauts who have experienced it firsthand.

You can also take tours through [Space Shuttle Endeavour](#) and hear exclusive interviews with astronauts. Meet [Ecosystems](#) animals and keepers up close. Listen to original podcasts on cutting-edge science topics – coming mid-June. Explore amazing images and insights from our curators and find out how exhibits are made. And check out some videos from our traveling exhibitions! New content will be added regularly.

Bookmark the [Science Beyond the Center](#) page and check back often to see what's new!

## STUCK AT HOME SCIENCE



This week in [Stuck at Home Science](#), let your imagination and ingenuity soar! Join us as we give you a peek at some of the artifacts found in our [Air and Space exhibits](#). Discover how you push against gravity, explore the stars and control a floating ketchup packet. New activities are released every weekday at 10:00 a.m. PST. Bookmark the [Stuck at Home Science](#) page for FREE unlimited access to exciting videos and activity guides that are easy to understand and available in both English and Spanish.

[Stuck at Home Science](#), developed in a collaboration of the California Science Center's content experts, educators and professional development team, is an online series of hands-on and age-appropriate science activities using supplies you can find at home. Activities feature videos and downloadable lessons that support the Next Generation Science Standards Science and Engineering Practices. Each week through mid-June covers a themed content goal – such as rocketry, life science, engineering or ecosystems.

Having fun learning with Stuck at Home Science? Send photos of you and your family doing the activities to [member@californiasciencecenter.org](mailto:member@californiasciencecenter.org) for an opportunity to be featured in an upcoming issue of *The Nucleus* and on our [Member News & Events](#) page.

**GET YOUR LITTLE ASTRONAUT READY FOR LAUNCH!**



Shop the ExploraStore and make sure that your little astronaut is ready for launch! Members receive 10% off all web orders and free shipping on all orders \$50 and over through the month of June. Use promo code: **MemberJune10** at checkout.

If your launch is scheduled for May there is still time to use the **MemberMay10** promo code for 10% off and free shipping on orders \$25 and over by May 31!

[Shop Now](#)

## VIRTUAL BACKGROUNDS



Missing the Science Center? Download and use these free virtual backgrounds featuring some of our favorite scenes from the California Science Center during your video conference meetings.

**NEW!** background this week includes a view into our 188,000-gallon kelp tank to give you a glimpse of what life is like in these special underwater forests.

[Download](#)

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT SCIENCE LEARNING FOR EVERYONE



During these challenging and uncertain times, your support as a Member is critical to our ability to continue serving our community with free online science learning opportunities. Please renew your Membership today in support of our mission to inspire science learning in everyone.

Renew

If your Membership is not due for renewal and you are in a position to make an additional gift, of any amount, we invite your contribution. Your generous support will help sustain California Science Center as a trusted educational resource while we are temporarily closed to the public. Thank you.

Donate

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For more information on the California Science Center, visit our website at [www.californiasciencecenter.org](http://www.californiasciencecenter.org) or call (323) SCIENCE (724-3623). For Membership questions, please contact the Membership Office at [member@californiasciencecenter.org](mailto:member@californiasciencecenter.org) or call (213) 744-7504.

NOTE: The California Science Center Membership Office does not send unsolicited email messages. To have your address removed from our email program, unsubscribe below or send a message to [member@californiasciencecenter.org](mailto:member@californiasciencecenter.org) with subject line: "remove from list." Please include your name and Member number in the body of the message.



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